IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	)	**MAIL STOP**
	)	
Hakan Moller et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1744
	)	
Application No.: 10/531,297	)	Examiner: Kevin Joyner
	)	
Filed: April 14, 2005	)	Confirmation No.: 6310
	)	
For: CONTROL OF STERILIZATION DEVICE AND METHOD	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	

FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

The listed documents are numbered (1) to (5). These documents were cited in an Opposition filed in the European counterpart application.

Reference (1): "Betriebsanleitung combibloc-Füllmaschine CFA 510-32" is a technical manual for an FCA 510 Combibloc machine from SIC Combibloc GmbH, Linnich, Germany. The manual describes a sterilization process in which condensation is avoided "to a large extent" during package sterilization (p. 6-124, paragraph 2); a Trockenzone (drying zone) with regard to hydrogen peroxide residues being removed using heated sterile air (p. 6-124, paragraph 4); and machine sterilization, in which hydrogen peroxide steam will condense on the machine parts and condensed hydrogen peroxide will be evaporated by using heated sterile air (p. 6-106, last paragraph).

Reference (2): "Bericht über die Typprüfung der aseptischen Füllmaschine Typ CFA 510," Institut für Lebensmittel-verfahrenstechnik, dated November 15, 1999, is a report about the examination of the aseptic filling machine Type CFA 510 of FML by the Center of Research for Milk and Food, Weihenstephan, Germany.

Reference (3): Article in "Verpackungs-Rundschau," March, 1998, which explains that the first machines CFA 510 of SIG Combibloc need steam for sterilization of the filling station.

Reference (4): This is a seminar presented by H.W. Knuppertz entitled "Konstruktive Anforderungen an Aseptikanlagen" October 22-23, 1987, in Munich, Germany. In the Opposition, it was stated that the seminar includes discussion of measuring temperature and concentration of the sterilizing agent as being known in the art; and that hydrogen peroxide concentration of the mixture of hydrogen peroxide steam and air, the temperature of the mixture and the package surface are all critical parameters needed to be measured in the sterilization process.

Reference (5): An article by Prof. Dr.-Ing. H.G. Kessler in "Die Molkerei-Zeitung Welt der Milch," which describes the use of hydrogen peroxide in liquid condition (spraying of hydrogen peroxide).

The information is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Continued examination is requested and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) accompanies the present submission.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: November 13, 2007

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